I’m more complex than other people because of coming from poverty. – Paul McCartney, 2020

Contrary to rumor, you see, none of us was brought up in any slums or in great degrees of poverty. We’ve always had enough; we’ve never been starving. – Paul McCartney, 1964

I used to love condensed milk. I said to myself, if ever I got famous, and had money, first thing I was gonna do was get my own tin of condensed milk and a pound of sausages. . . . Come on, you've got everything you need. No, the condensed milk was . . . a bit of a fantasy. – Paul McCartney, 2020

My dad was a real - He left school at 14 cause the family didn't have any money, he couldn't - he had to get out and earn some money. – Paul McCartney, 2020

He occasionally had trouble paying the bills, but it was never, you know, never ‘Go out and pick blackberries, son; we’re a bit short this week.’ – Paul McCartney, 1964

“I had these gray trousers, a little school cap and a uniform which now looking back on it I think that was probably my best set of clothes.” Paul McCartney 2012

Stella McCartney: And your dad brought you back bananas, didn’t he? Because he worked in the cotton trade
Paul: It was after the war, when nobody had had bananas, and he brought some back and said, ‘Look! Bananas!’ We’d never seen them or tried them or anything, and we didn’t like them. He was annoyed. – 2017

"When they had giveaways in comics with little trinkets, I kept them all. Some people would say that’s a hoarding instinct, but not having anything when I was a kid has stuck with me as far as money." – Paul McCartney, 2020

“He had us out aged about nine. I was virtually a door-to-door salesman [for Jim’s gardening club] by the time I was twelve . . . . For some reason I worked like a bastard when I was a kid! I would be out collecting jam jars door to door, doing Bob-a-Job.” Paul McCartney 1997

I think I was average intelligence. Not bad. I went in for a few exams that other kids didn't go in for. Em if you passed them you got free books and stuff you know there are a few exams like that so I must've been a little bit above average. – Paul McCartney, 1984

[Going to the Liverpool Institute for Boys] at age eleven was quite a culture shock. – Paul McCartney 2020

In 1955, the McCartney family moved for the last time to a small three-bedroomed brick-built terrace house at 20 Forthlin Road in Allerton, which is now owned by The National Trust. It only cost £1:6s:0d per week, which was due to Mary's seniority at the hospital. Money was a problem in the McCartney house, as Jim only earned up to £6.00 a week, which was less than his wife. – The Paul McCartney Project

[Dad would] shout 'Quiet!' for the football results each Saturday afternoon and woe betide if you moved an inch – Mike McCartney, 1982

I think what everyone dreams of winning the football poles or winning a big lottery for is to give yourself the freedom to do just what you want and to live just as you feel and not as the big boss tells you. – Paul McCartney, 1983

Look, where I come from, we're the grovelling type. We tend to doff our caps. – Paul McCartney

"I really remember looking around the estate where I lived and thinking what's the main problem here cause I'm gonna have to face it. And it was lack of money. Nobody had money, you know, and they were always arguing husband and wife over that. I thought if I can avoid that, this will be good." Paul McCartney, 2012

And I remember thinking very consciously, 'Okay, I'll solve that; I will try to get money.' That set me off on the 'Let's not have too many problems with money' trail. – Paul McCartney, 2020

"We had the emotional side to deal with [after Mary's death] and just the physical side of how we were gonna earn some money. It did make me sort of resolve to earn money." – Paul McCartney, 2012

Ian vividly remembers Jim Mac being on the phone in the back room, trying through the din to place horse-racing bets with his turf-accountant: 'He'd often charge through to us and shout, 'Can you keep that bloody noise down!' – Mark Lewhison 2013

"The first thing I said was, "What are we going to do without her money?"" Paul McCartney 1968

[Paul & Mike] couldn't help but notice [Jim's] inability to pass a slot machine without putting a coin in it. – Chris Salewicks 1986

“On one visit to Forthlin Road, Paul said [he wished he could] ‘pay our Mike to do my paper round and lie in bed and listen to Saturday Club’.” – Ian James

My father used to have a shilling each way on the horses.” – Paul McCartney, 1964

“Used to be a sort of old iron stove [in the Inny dining room] And the teacher came in here when he'd collected a great big wad of dinner tickets that you used to pay a shilling for. And he used to put them on the fire here, give them a little poke with the poker, then go back and collect another great big wad. But there was a very wet coal on the fire and it didn't burn up instantly. All these dinner tickets were still in there. This was money! Those were banknotes! So we reached in and got pockets full of these. And then we went home and rubbed the ones that were in pencil off and resold them to our friends.” Paul McCartney, 1984

Paul says, ‘That’s where the Beatles started. That’s where John gave me half his chocolate bar.’ And now Bono’s like, ‘What chocolate bar? I’ve never heard of any chocolate bar.’ And Paul says, ‘John had a chocolate bar, and he shared it with me. And he didn’t give me some of his chocolate bar. He didn’t give me a square of his chocolate bar. He didn’t give me a quarter of his chocolate bar. He gave me half of his chocolate bar. And that’s why the Beatles started right there.’ – Matt Damon, 2022

P: See over there? That newsagent? It’s changed a bit, but that’s where I had my first real conversation with John.
B: But I thought your first conversation with John was when he was in the Quarrymen and they played at that fete in St. Peter’s Church.
P: Yeah, that’s true. But I’m talking real, insightful stuff, not just ‘What sort of guitar do you use?’ or ‘What sort of tunes are you listening to?
B: Insightful? How do you mean?
P:Well, John bought a bar of chocolate, Cadbury’s chocolate, and when he came out of the newsagent’s he broke it in half. Gave me one half. I was amazed because, you know, back then, chocolate was really something. Most boys would break off a little square, but John gave me half his bar. – Bono, 2022

‘When I caught sight of him, when John brought him home for the first time, I thought “Oh-ho, look what the cat’s dragged in. He seemed so much younger than John–and John was always picking up waifs and strays. I thought “Here we go again, John Lennon . . . . Oh, yes, he was well-mannered–too well-mannered. He was what we call in Liverpool “talking posh” and I thought he was taking the mickey out of me. I thought “He’s a snake-charmer all right,” John’s little friend, Mr Charming. I wasn’t falling for it. After he’d gone, I said to John, “What are you doing with him? He’s younger than you… and he’s from Speke!”’ – Mimi Smith, 1968

"Paul used to come to my front door, he'd lean his bike against the fence and look over at me with his sheep eyes and say 'Hello, Mimi. Can I come in?' 'No, you certainly cannot,' I'd say." – Mimi Smith, 1968

John's family was rather sort of middle-class— there was a lot of his appeal to me. I still am attracted to… hum, that type of person. Particularly the British type of person. My auntie Jin used to say: "Son, see, there's nothing nicer than an educated Scot's voice." And I know what she means! [Scottish accent] You know, that rather nice Scottish purr… And John had relatives up in Edinburgh, and one of them was a dentist and somebody worked in the BBC! After all, now, come on! None of us knew people like that! So I was kind of attracted to that. It wasn't a social climbing thing, it's just that I do find it attractive. – Paul McCartney

Aunt Mimi had lots of books by Churchill in the front parlour. Not a bad basis for an education. – Paul McCartney, 2021

[Mendips] was a very catty household; John liked cats. They had pedigree Siamese cats, which again is slightly middle-class, if you think about it, rather than a puppy. There was always this slight feeling. His was Aunt Mimi, ours were all called Aunty: Aunty Edie, Aunty Jin, Aunty Milly, Aunty Flo. John had an Aunt Harriet, and Harriet was not a name we came across, especially when they called her Harrie! We never knew women called Mimi, she would have been called Mary. But Aunt Mary became Mimi, which is very sophisticated, very twenties and thirties, very jazz era. So it was Harriet and Mimi: I can imagine them with long cigarette holders. It was like Richmal Crompton's Just William books to me. You read Just William books because you like that world. I'm not ashamed of it, I'm attracted by that. I think it's a rich world, the world of Varsity, the Racquet Club sort of thing. So John was a particularly attractive character in that kind of world. – Paul McCartney, 1997

John was from a very middle-class family, which really impressed me because everyone else was from working-class families. To us, John was upper class. – Paul McCartney, 1995

"I was 12 when my mum died and my dad had to bring up two boys, so the house was in a sorry state," he said. He recalled paint "flaking down" from the ceiling when he had a bath and "armchair springs which stuck out and ripped our clothes to shreds". – Mike McCartney 2022

Suddenly Paul started going through his pockets looking for some money, he soon realised he didn't have enough money for his fare home. Paul made this known to

everyone on the bus, suddenly a man got out of his seat and gave Paul half a crown and then got off the bus. Paul was so thankful that he ran to the back of the bus and started shouting out the window at the man. "Thank you, thank you and I love you!" To which John remarked, "Hey Paul, calm down or they will think you are a bit odd - shouting out 'I love you!'" We all burst out laughing, we were all feeling more relaxed now. – Len Garry, 2014.

“I can still see them now; Paul and John having toast and John wanting jam on the toast and Paul telling him off: 'John, you must be mad! It's a penny extra.’ – Allan Williams 2019

Every Tuesday, Paul and I used to go to the pictures. One night, John, Paul and I went out for something to eat to a little cafe. We had nearly finished the main course and they both winked at each other and then they started to have this terrible row across the table. I'm thinking, what's going on? They were shouting at each other until we all got thrown out so we didn't have to pay. – Iris Caldwell 2012

“So [dad] came from poverty and the only way out of poverty - you could rob or thieve, but they could arrest you and put you in prison. You could gamble, which he tried and it didn't work. So the other thing worked out. He went out around Liverpool these dances, and the joy of playing but more importantly at the end of the night you got money! That's where he got the first inkling you could make money out of poverty, get yourself out of poverty with music. He bought me a banjo and my brother a guitar and then a set of drums fell off the back of a lorry and into our front room.” – Mike McCartney

“Jim was reluctant to let the teenage Paul go to Hamburg with The Beatles until Paul said the group would earn £15 per week each. As this was more than he earned himself, Jim finally agreed.” – the Paul Mccartney Project

“We can get a glass of milk for 13 pfennigs, i.e. about 2½d so that’s cheap enough. Anyway, I’d rather be home.” – Paul McCartney's letter to his dad, 1960

Throughout Tune In, [Paul] is always struggling to make ends meet, stressing over the price of his musical instruments, sending money from Hamburg back home to his brother and dad. – Another Kind of Mind, Fine Tuning: Ep 6

Paul’s care with money was noted. Pete says that while they all passed their ciggies around, Paul would, “sneak one of his own” to himself. – Mark Lewhison, 2013

Stu had also told me how he and John used to borrow money from Paul with the sole purpose of not paying him back. They enjoyed winding him up. – Pauline Suttcliffe

Stuart owed Paul some money, and Paul, nagging to get it back, made a flippant remark about Astrid being able to afford it. – Klaus Voorman

“Hamburg totally wrecked us. I remember getting home to England, and my dad thought I was half-dead. I looked like a skeleton.” – Paul McCartney

“Very soon after [he left the Inny] before he was famous, he repaid a small debt, actually, to my wife. A sixpence he'd borrowed to go to the cinema.” – Mr. Parker, Paul's Geography Teacher

“Paul would always give in to his dad. His dad told him to get a job, he fucking dropped the group and started working on the fucking lorries, saying, "I need a steady career.” – John Lennon 1971

You know people sort of say the muse and the art. It wasn't. It was just to get some money. – Paul McCartney, 2020

Lennon wore a leather jacket, and McCartney’s [jacket] looked as though he'd been sleeping in it for months. – Tony Sanders

PAUL: John was sort of more, you know, very middle class, and Brian was middle class, and they could relate to each other.
DANNY: As opposed to working class – John, I mean?
PAUL: Yeah, as opposed to working class. So they would kind of know about this, what’s expected of them, a little above people, a little superior – 2000

We wanted to get paid, and the more money, the better . . . . Well, let’s write a swimming pool! You need a new extension, let’s write it. Come on, sit down – Paul McCartney, 2021

We’d be idiots to say that it isn’t a constant inspiration to be making a lot of money. – Paul McCartney, 1964

We went to a restaurant with George Martin. We were all slightly mystified by the menu and I thought, ‘I can do this,’ so I ordered an avocado pear for dessert, because I’m thinking pear melba, or maybe it’s going to be like stewed pears, and this sniffy Italian waiter said, ‘That is not a dessert, sir.’ I said, ‘Yeah, I know that. Just kidding you.’ I was about 21. – Paul McCartney, 2017

We used to ask them, ‘Am I a millionaire yet?’ and they used to say cryptic things like ‘On paper you are’ and we’d say, ‘Well, what does that mean? Am I or aren’t I? Are there more than a million of those green things in my bank yet?’ and they’d say, ‘Well,

it’s not actually in a bank… we think you are.’ It was actually very difficult to get anything out of these people and the accountants never made you feel successful. – Paul McCartney, 1986

There were as few as five meetings between Jim McCartney [1902] and my prematurely widowed mother, Angie [1929], before the couple decided to marry in November 1964. – Ruth McCarntey

I remember we had the whole top five in America and I decided I wanted to buy a country house. I wasn’t asking for the world. In those days it would have cost about £30,000, top whack, and so I went to the accountants and they said, ‘You’ll have to get a mortgage’ and I said, ‘What do you mean, a mortgage? Aren’t we doing well yet? We’ve got the whole top five in the biggest market in the world! There’s gotta be some money coming in off that!’ – Paul McCartney, 1986

Paul is a very rich boy. A very rich boy. But I always taught the boys two things. Toleration and moderation. And you can safely say, they are two good boys. – Jim McCartney, 1965

When we spent time in the Bahamas on our Honeymoon, Brian did everything in his power to take care of us. – Angie McCartney 2013

The lounge appeared to me to be the size of a cricket ground, and the telly looked as large as any cinema screen I’d seen. – Ruth McCartney

One of the great things now about money is what you can do with it. Family and friends, if they have any medical problem, I can just say, 'I’ll help.' The nicest thing about having money is you can help people with it. – Paul McCartney, 2020

“When someone in the family wasn't too well, Paul could be awfully kind-hearted. My gran, Angie's mother, Edie, was fetched home by private ambulance for her 80th

birthday. Paul had masses of flowers delivered. Once, when I had broken my leg, Paul bought me a lovely little Scottie, which we called Hamish. If a member of the McCartney clan was going into the hospital, Paul would say, "Get a private room. Tell them I'll settle the account." Frequently, after a chat with Paul, Jim would pay bills for relatives. A nephew might be having the phone cut off, or a sister might need a new piece of furniture. – Ruth McCartney

We couldn't even come in the main entrance. We came in the tradesman's entrance. – Paul McCartney, 2021

Paul was obviously as proud as a peacock with his new lady. For Paul, Jane Asher was a great prize. – Cynthia Lennon

It was really like culture shock . . . . They would do things that I'd never seen before, like at dinner there would be word games. Now I'm bright enough, but mine is an intuitive brightness. I could just about keep up with that and I could always say, 'I don't know that word.' I was always honest. In fact, I was able to enjoy and take part fully in their thing. – Paul McCartney, 1997

The cash for everything came out of a joint account held by Jim and Paul. Into this account came Paul's music publishing money from Northern Songs. – Ruth McCartney

Peter [Asher] pulled open the sock drawer in [Paul's] wardrobe, and thousands of dollars, wrapped in paper bands, fell out onto the floor." – Barry Miles

Q: There are lots of stories about you and money. Miles, once the editor of International Times, who was a friend of yours in the mid-'60s, told me about finding your MBE and a bunch of £20 notes stuffed into a sock drawer in your bedroom at the Asher house.
P: Yeah, I've heard that story too. I never remember actually having a wad of money like that. Still, it was nice of him not to nick it anyway, wasn't it? – 1986

We were filming at the Scala, Paul had said to me, "It's my dad's birthday and I don't know what to get him." I bred race horses as a hobby. I said to Paul, 'Does your dad ever have a bet?' 'My father used to have a shilling each way on horses.' 'Why don't you buy him a race horse?' Paul said, 'Where do you get 'em? How much do you pay for one?' So I bought a horse called Drake's Drum. I had a trainer in the north of England, a very straight, proper military man. He looked after the horse for a couple of months. Then Paul asked me to get a painting of the horse – 'Drake's Drum, Owned By James McCartney'. At the party after the premier, Paul called me over to join the band and one or two other people as Jim McCartney received his birthday present, wrapped in brown

paper. He unwrapped it, looked at the painting and said in amazement, “What’s this?” I said to Paul, “Did you tell your dad we’ve got the horse?” “Oh, no! I forgot. Dad, we got the horse!” – Dennis O’Dell

I'd never seen a family like this. I literally had a little attic room up at the top, next to Jane’s brother Peter‘s room. This gesture was in the long tradition of giving a garret room to a starving artist. The family knew all about art and culture and society, whereas I’d never known anyone who knew about [those sorts of things]. It was really nice staying in that house. Lots of books to read, art on the walls, interesting conversations; and Margaret was a music teacher. – Paul McCartney, 2021

I’m trying to crowd everything in. I vaguely mind anyone knowing anything I don’t know. I’m trying to cram everything in, all the things that I’ve missed. People are saying things and painting things and writing things and composing things that are great, and I want to know.” Paul, 1965

[Paul] revealed his preference [as opposed to Jane’s] for sessions with old mates. He liked to visit a New Brighton pub and join the gang late at night curried eggs back to somebody's house. It was Jane who introduced Paul to the elegance of Savile Row suits, classy shoes, and silk hankies. I think he depended on her as a guru to expand his gregarious ambitions beyond the pubs. – Ruth McCartney

“Accountants and people like that would say, well, what are you going to do with it? We'd say, put it in the bank. That's what you do with money. And we'll keep making more and you put it in the bank. And that's all you do.
They said no, no, no, no. You've got to do stuff. You've got to invest. And obviously you're told about stocks and shares or you're told about this. And for me, I didn't really want to do any of that. I wasn't really interested. I said, this is crazy. This is so risky. You know, I'm not sure I want to do this.” Paul McCartney 2012

At the midnight hour Paul produced a painting out of thin air and, presenting it to Father, said, “happy birthday, Dad, all the best.”
“Thank you son, it's very nice,” said Dad a little bewildered.
“It's a horse,” added Paul.
“I can see that, son.” Dad was still confused. “It looks lovely.”
“It's not just a painting. It's a horse. I've bought you a bloody horse.”
My father, a lifelong racing man and inveterate small stakes gambler, just stood there with a one thousand pound horse in his hands murmuring, “you silly bugger.” – Mike McCartney

“I only ever once complained to Brian. We’d heard The Rolling Stones got a slightly better deal at Decca than we did from EMI - sixpence a record or something. I complained to Brian. I remember it hurting him, too. It was a learning experience for me: don’t do that again. It got to him a bit too much. And he was probably right as well: he had done so much for us and there was me bitching about a penny or two.” – Paul McCartney 1995

“How about the stories that an American syndicate offered Brian Epstein £3,000,000 for his percentage of the Beatles?
Paul: If Brian accepted that offer, I’d just quit. I’m not going to be pushed around in America by somebody regarding us as merchandise.” Paul McCartney, 1964

Paul McCartney's Chappell and Co Ltd upright piano, numbered 38567 and dating back to 1902. The young McCartney learnt his craft on this very piano until it was sold by his father in 1965. It re-emerged in 1981, together with a letter of authenticity, to be sold at auction for £9,000, [to Paul, presumably, who owns it now] proving it to have been a good investment by the original purchaser. – Piano World

Q: I love those houses along here, [across from Regent's Park] they’re so wonderful.
P: Yeah.
Q: Cost an arm and a leg
P: I know. I tried to live in one of them once, but the residents didn’t want me. Cause I was a pop star. So I moved away and I’m glad I did. They can stick it! – 1983

One of Paul's favorite pastimes is “estate-looking”. In England, many wealthy families no longer live in their huge (drafty) ancient manors (preferring the practicality and comfort of a city house) so they make their estates into museums open to the public. When Paul has the time, he hops into his mini and drives to one of these estates and takes the tour. And guess what? The Ashers have such an estate–and Paul and Jane have joined the tourists more than once to be shown through it! – Gloria Stavers, 1966

“Maybe Paul had started to attach to Brian’s upper-middle class ways. But they were getting along well. Like really well.” – Nat Weiss

When we reached the cobbled street [in Liverpool], he fell down on his hands and knees, pounding his fists into the pavement. ‘IT’S JUST TOO FUCKIN’ MUCH, THAT'S ALL, I CAN'T TAKE IT! THE MONEY. IT'S THE DAMNED MONEY! I'VE GIVEN THEM A FORTUNE AND THEY NEVER EVEN PAID ME BACK A SHILLING! THEY *EXPECT* IT!’ …. When we got back [to his father's house] He sobbed hopelessly on the floor while the dogs crawled all over him. In the morning, he pretended not to remember and

wouldn't let me remind him. His trouble was deep, and nothing I said could set him straight." – Francie Schwartz, 1972

"[Linda] was a freeing influence. She had grown up in the posh bit of New York. She was on track to become the sort of 'company wife.' But she didn't like that. She liked rock and roll. . . . So there was a lot of freedom in her thinking. . . . She didn't want to do what her family had planned for her. So this mad-cap idea of having a baby with me and marrying me and going up to Scotland. It suited her and it suited me." – Paul McCartney, 2025

I kept saying [to the other Beatles], 'Don't give Allen Klein 20 per cent, give him 15, we're a big act!' And everyone's going, 'No, no, he wants 20 per cent.' I say, 'Of course he does, he wants 30, really, but give him 15. It's like buying a car. You don't give the guy what he asks for.' – Paul McCartney

Dad got into debt towards the end and Paul bought back the house to allow him to pay his bills. He bought that house twice. – Ruth McCartney 2006

I was just trying to walk away from them and keep it low-key, but I couldn't. I knew I had to do it. It was either that or letting Klein have the whole thing, all the fortune we'd worked for all our lives since we were children. But we did rescue the Beatle millions. They had taken us long enough to earn and we hadn't screwed anyone to earn them and I always thought it was very clean money compared to the shipbuilders and the great sugar fortunes. No one had to buy our records. We'd kept people in work at the vinyl factories, we'd worked for this, scraped our own fingers to the bone. So we felt good about that and I felt good about hanging on to it. – Paul McCartney, 1997

After Paul and Lidna had married, a financial affairs man came from London. He went through all the household expenses and told my mum that Paul and Linda wanted to know what it cost to run Rembrandt so that they could make a specific annual allowance. The joint account was closed at that stage" – Ruth McCartney

They always try and keep you down. So you didn't actually get much of a feeling of being very rich. The first time I actually saw cheques was when I left Apple, and it wasn't me that saw them, it was Linda, because we'd co-written a few of our early things. – Paul McCartney, 1986

There was an awful lot of money made, and none of it came to us, really, in the end. Virtually, that's the story. So I'd kind of like to salvage some of that and see that not everything's ripped off. – Paul McCartney, 1974

Dad was an insatiable gambler … he just didn't know when to stop. He became seriously in debt to the bookies." – Mike McCartney 1981

My theory, which was instilled in me by my dad, was, 'Don't get under an obligation to anyone, ever. If you need anything, wait until you can afford it, then get it.'" – Paul McCartney 2012

Yeah, legally I had to. I had to take the other Beatles to court. And I got a lot of guilt off that. But you tell me what you would have done if the entire earnings that you'd made — and it was something like The Beatles' entire earnings, a big figure, everything we'd ever done up to somewhere round about 'Hey Jude' — was about to disappear into someone's pocket. The guy I'm talking about, Allen Klein, had £5 million the first year he managed The Beatles. So I smelled a rat and thought, £5 million in one year, how long's it going to take him to get rid of it all? . . . . I went to the High Court and actually managed to save the situation. But my whole life was on the line at that point. I felt this was the fire, this was the furnace. It had finally arrived. – Paul McCartney, 1986

After Jim's death Angie auctioned off some of Paul's childhood mementos, including his birth certificate and a pair of baby shoes. – The Paul McCartney Project

"I mean, I didn't know like stuff I know now, cause you know, you get nannies and you get housekeepers and you get people to help you if you can afford it. I didn't know any of that, so, you know, it was me teaching, you know 'cuh—ahh—tuh, c-a-t, CAT!' You know, I love doing that. – Paul McCartney, 2025

It's how I was brought up, was in quite a compact little family house. And I always liked that. I thought it was good for everyone to do that. – Paul McCartney, 2025

Q: Are you ever embarrassed by your wealth, your great success?
A: Yes. Occasionally. Cause, er, I come from a council estate.
Q: A councilor?
A: Estate. Like, eh, council houses. Not poor people, but, not well-off, you didn't own your own house.
Q: Public housing?
A: Public housing, yeah, where a lot of people all live together and stuff, so I'm from there, and my family never had any money, so to have money, yeah, I'm not born to it at all so, erm, whenever anyone says, 'you got too much money, you should pay, or you could give it all away or something, you know that can make me feel a bit embarrassed, you know, cause I don't really know what to say to them, except well, look, you know, I

didn’t rip anyone off to get it, and er, please let me have it, and er, I do some good things, and you know, that’s my only er, refuge, but it does a bit embarrass me, yeah, just cause, I suppose cause I’m not used to it, and I haven’t got that kind of – but I don’t mind. I mean it only embarrasses me a bit. I certainly wouldn’t er, give up cause of the embarrassment. – Paul McCartney, 1979

The former Beatle has seen his bank balance swell by £163m in the past year to cement his reputation as Britain's richest musician. With an estimated personal fortune of £713m, the singer-songwriter is worth nearly £300m more than Lord Andrew Lloyd-Webber - his closest rival in the rich musician stakes - and almost £600m more than his former surviving bandmates, George Harrison and Ringo Starr. – The Guardian, 2001

"If I go somewhere and I get whatever I bought in a nice bag, I will want to keep the bag. My rationale is that I might want to put my sandwiches in it tomorrow. Whereas Nancy says, 'We’ll get another bag.' In that way, my attitude toward money hasn’t changed that much. It’s the same instinct to preserve.” – Paul McCartney, 2020

I always say, even though I've met a lot of really cool, very famous people, politicians, eh… I don't think I've ever met smarter people than *my* people. They're smart, man. And I say to people don't ever underestimate this guy over here just cause he's working class. This guy could know the entire works of Shakespeare. You know. – Paul McCartney, 2020

P: do I have good table manners?
Mary: he has been known to lick the plate sometimes.
P: I might lick a plate, yeah, might just, you know, take the soup bowl *ch* get that. – 2021

“I think it’s one of the great things about money – being able to change someone’s life with something like that. And to be able to donate to great causes so you can see things changing, you can see how you can help people. So there’s plenty of good stuff about money, you don’t have to just take it all. You can distribute it. – Paul McCartney, 2021